



Australian Bureau of Statistics

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About this Release

Statistics Victoria is a quarterly newsletter primarily targetted to Victorian state and local government users providing information about new developments, recent statistical releases, seminars, training and reviews.

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Laneways

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LANEWAYS

A MESSAGE FROM THE VICTORIAN REGIONAL DIRECTOR

What a busy start to 2011 it has been for the Victorian office.

With the clock ticking down to the 2011 Census night (9 August 2011), the ABS Census Management Unit in Victoria are going full steam ahead. Preparing for the biggest peacetime operation in Australia, Census staff have been busy recruiting area supervisors and field officers, and rolling out a range of promotional activities across the state. Critical to the success of the Census is getting involved with the Victorian community at the 'grass roots' level, including securing partnerships with local governments and community groups to assist in promoting the Census in a number of different ways across the state. This will ensure all Victorians are included in the Census—from city residents in high-rise apartment buildings, to those in regional areas across Victoria, as well as those who are harder to find on Census night, such as homeless people. A large amount of work has already been done, however there is much more to do. The ABS will continue to promote the Census over the coming months, ensuring the best possible Census for the Victorian community and the rest of Australia.

As many of you will know, the **Census | beyond the count** conference was held in Melbourne from 2 to 4 March and it was great that so many delegates from Victoria, representing all levels of government, as well as academic and business sectors, were able to attend. The conference showcased the diverse and innovative ways in which Census data has been used to make informed decisions for policy development and service provision. A few highlights from the event included Bernard Salt's keynote presentation; Philip Norman's presentation on the value of journey to work data; and Jeremy Reynolds' discussion on how the Victorian Government uses Census data as an evidence base for planning and delivering services. Thank you to all presenters for your participation. The ABS looks forward to hearing many more stories about the innovative ways in which Census data has been used to assist with community planning, infrastructure development, business opportunities and government policy in the future.

You'll find out more about these particular events, information on other ABS activities in Victoria, as well as recent ABS statistical releases, as you read through this issue of Statistics Victoria.

Finally, thanks for reading, and for your ongoing interest in the ABS. I look forward to meeting many of you throughout the year as we continue supporting Victoria through statistics.



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WHAT'S HAPPENING

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2011 CENSUS EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) is now recruiting collectors for Census 2011. In Victoria positions exist for 7,000 collectors; and are available to Victorian residents over 18 years of age from all cultural backgrounds.

We are seeking your assistance in the promotion of these casual employment opportunities. This will help to ensure all Victorians are counted, to provide high quality Census data for the Victorian community.

If you are interested in promoting these opportunities on your website or in a newsletter, please contact Celeste van Wessem on (03) 9982 6070 for more information.

MEASURES OF AUSTRALIA'S PROGRESS - MAP 2.0

[2011 Public Consultation: "Is life in Australia getting better?"](#)

Are you interested in how Australia measures its progress? Do you have an indicator you think would be particularly relevant?

The ABS 'Measures of Australia's Progress' Team are conducting a wide range of consultations to seek feedback from government, business, and academic sectors on the issues and goals that matter to Australians in terms of national progress. The ABS is seeking feedback across four major areas of progress: Social; Economic; Governance and Environmental to assist the development of a refreshed framework for the Measures of Australia's Progress publication.

The consultation will consist of a one hour presentation followed by a one hour workshop and question time.

Date and time: 10:00am to 12:00 midday
Monday 2 May, 2011

Location: ABS Victoria
Level 5, South Tower
485 La Trobe Street, Melbourne, Victoria

Registration: If you are interested in attending, please email your name, organisation and phone number with the subject "MAP 2.0" to victoria.statistics@abs.gov.au.

To find out more: Contact Esther Cramer on (03) 9615 7904.

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CENSUS | BEYOND THE COUNT

The **Census | beyond the count** conference was held at the Hilton on the Park in Melbourne from 2 to 4 March 2011.

The conference was a fantastic success that saw many great stories presented on how the Census has been used to plan, review and improve services to communities all over Australia. It also brought together people from all areas of policy and service providers including local, state and federal governments, as well as businesses and academics, providing networking opportunities for the more than 300 attendees.

Bernard Salt gave the keynote presentation, discussing the changes in life cycles and retirement ages with the more recent inclusion of the 'lifestyle' and 'grey nomad' periods before settling into 'old age'; the skills shortages Australia is anticipated to encounter over the next decade; and his popular research into 'the man drought'.

Dr Cassandra Goldie discussed closing the gender pay gap and issues faced by people of a diverse sexual orientation, and described how Census data can be used to provide evidence in determining policies created to address these issues. Further sessions included Ivan Motley sharing why he thinks 'Census is sexy'; Catherine Caruana-McManus from IBM discussed how they are providing smart technology to run the eCensus; and Lara Wilde showed how she combines Census data with local intelligence to match people who are planning a move to compatible rural towns.

The Connect with Census interactive exhibition was very popular as were the workshops, where delegates were able to learn more about the 2011 Census products and engage with Census experts. Interest in the new Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) was particularly high, as was interest in the TableBuilder demonstration and discussion on what to expect for Census 2011.

Overall, **Census | beyond the count** provided a well-rounded balance of stories and information on many different topics, plus a bit of fun! The ABS thanks everyone who came along and made this conference a fantastic success.

Selected presentations from this event are available. See www.abs.gov.au/beyondthecount for details.

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ABS PRESENTS ... VIDEO SERIES

ABS Presents ... is a series of videos intended to provide a visually accessible story of statistics in order to increase statistical literacy, showcase new products or surveys, and inform the community about ABS concepts, methods, and work program.

The first "ABS Presents ... " videos were released on 25 February 2011, covering the following topics:

- Measures of Australia's Progress
- Are Young People Earning or Learning?
- More Than Just Unemployed
- Population and How It's Measured

What would you like ABS to focus on in the next edition of "ABS Presents ... "? Please let the ABS know at customer.insights@abs.gov.au.

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AUSTRALIAN HEALTH SURVEY COMMENCEMENT

In March 2011, the ABS commenced the Australian Health Survey (AHS), the most comprehensive health survey ever conducted in Australia. The AHS will include about 50,000 randomly sampled adults and children from all across Australia.

The AHS builds on previous health surveys allowing comparisons of health information over time across topics such as obesity, smoking, health conditions and how Australians manage their health.

The AHS will also collect information about what Australians eat and drink, how active they are, and biomedical measures. These biomedical measures will reveal new insights into heart and kidney disease, diabetes and other chronic conditions by examining health risk factors such as cholesterol, glucose and sodium levels. The survey will be able to compare these biomedical risk factors with lifestyle aspects for those who are healthy and those who are not.

While the biomedical component of the survey is voluntary, the ABS will encourage participation as this information will provide a better understanding of how lifestyle and diet relate to the health of Australians.

The survey will be conducted over 2011 to 2013 with first results available in late 2012, and will be used by a wide range of health researchers, public health advocates, government, clinicians and community health organisations. The information will be used to identify health issues, design and evaluate new health programs and understand what affects our health.

Further information and detailed questions and answers are available on the ABS website at www.abs.gov.au/australianhealthsurvey.

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Recent Releases

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RECENT RELEASES

The Recent Releases section provides a brief overview of selected publications released in the last quarter. Emphasis is on Victorian and lower level spatial data for those publications where it is available. We encourage you to follow the links to the relevant publications to find out more.

For a comprehensive list of ABS releases, including monthly and quarterly publications, please visit [Statistics by Release Date](#).

For a list of upcoming ABS releases, please visit [ABS Release Advice](#).

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- Census Releases
- Social and Demographic Statistics
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Discussion Paper: Methodological Review of Counting the Homeless, 2006

Reflecting a Nation: Stories from the 2011 Census, February 2011

Census of Population and Housing: Outcomes from the 2011 Census Output Geography Discussion Paper, 2011 (cat. no. 2911.0.55.003) - released 22/02/11

This publication outlines plans for the implementation of the Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) for the 2011 Census, and is the follow up to the Discussion Paper: Census of Population and Housing - ABS Views on the 2011 Census Output Geography (cat. no. 2911.0.55.002).

This paper incorporates feedback received through an extensive consultation process and

the ABS response. It contains the revised matrix of products that will be released by each geographic area.

To find out more, please visit the publication.

Discussion Paper: Methodological Review of Counting the Homeless, 2006 (cat. no. 2050.0.55.001) - released 31/03/11

This discussion paper presents the initial findings of a review of the methodology used by Professors Chamberlain and MacKenzie to compile their estimates of the homeless population, as published in the ABS Australian Census Analytic Program output Counting the Homeless, 2006 (ABS cat. no. 2050.0). The work by Chamberlain and MacKenzie was ground-breaking, but the ABS has now decided that it should consider publishing official estimates of the homeless population.

The ABS will consult with stakeholders until the end of June 2011 on these initial findings, before finalising and publishing the proposed methodology for producing official estimates of homeless people based on Census data.

The outcome of the review is intended to be a consistent, transparent and repeatable process for estimating the number of people enumerated in the Census who may be homeless, using Census data for 2001, 2006 and to be repeated in 2011, and in future Censuses.

To find out more, please visit the publication.

Reflecting a Nation: Stories from the 2011 Census, February 2011 (cat. no. 2071.0) - released 28/02/11

One hundred years of working on the Census focuses on the history of Census collectors and other workers, and offers an enjoyable read for anyone who likes the occasional look at history.

This is the first article in the online series Reflecting a Nation: Stories from the 2011 Census. Further articles will be released progressively and cover topics about the history of the Australian Census, contemporary society and the trends that affect the lives of Australian people. It begins with several historical articles released in 2011, focussing on 100 years of the Census from 1911 to 2011. Analytical articles based on 2011 census data will be released from June 2012.

To read the article, please visit the publication.

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SOCIAL AND DEMOGRAPHIC STATISTICS

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Perspectives on Culture, March 2011

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Regional Population Growth, Australia, 2009–10

Schools, Australia, 2010

Apparent Consumption of Alcohol: Extended Time Series, 1944–45 to 2008–09 (cat. no. 4307.0.55.002) - released 18/01/11

Data available at the following geographic level: National

This publication provides estimates of apparent consumption of alcohol based on the availability of alcoholic beverages in Australia. It provides estimates of the quantity of pure alcohol available for consumption from beer, wine, spirits, and ready to drink (pre-mixed) beverages, plus estimates of the total volume of beer and wine available for consumption.

For most of the past 50 years apparent consumption of alcohol in Australia has increased, from around 68 million litres of pure alcohol in 1960–61 to 183 million litres in 2008–09. However, in per capita terms (that is, average alcohol consumption per person aged 15 years and over) a different picture emerges, with Australia experiencing periods of both increasing and decreasing apparent per capita consumption.

Over the past 50 years, the level of apparent consumption of different alcoholic beverages has changed substantially; in particular, the proportion of pure alcohol available for consumption in the form of beer has decreased (from 76% to 44%), while the proportions in the form of wine and spirits have increased (from 12% to 36% and 12% to 20% respectively).

To find out more, including information about factors affecting patterns of consumption, please visit the publication.

Aspects of Disability and Health in Australia, 2007–08 (cat. no. 4367.0) - released 04/03/11

Data available at the following geographic level: National

The aim of the publication is to analyse the health experiences of people with a profound or severe disability in comparison to those with no reported disability. The analysis aims to inform discussion and debate around health policies which impact on people with profound or severe limitation with core activities. The data is drawn from the 2007–08 National Health Survey, conducted by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) from August 2007 to June 2008. Around 20,800 people from all states and territories and across all age groups were surveyed.

Of people aged 18 years and over with a profound or severe disability in 2007–08, 17% considered their overall health to be very good or excellent and 23% stated that their health was good. In contrast, 69% of people without a disability rated their health as very good or excellent and 26% as good. Of people with a profound or severe disability, 60% considered their health to be fair or poor, compared to 5.5% of people without a disability.

To find out more, including information about age distribution, disadvantage, personal stressors and mental health, and medication, please visit the publication.

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Australian Social Trends, March 2011 (cat. no. 4102.0) - released 23/03/11

Australian Social Trends is a quarterly publication which draws together a wide range of statistics, from the ABS and other official sources, to provide a picture of Australian society and how it is changing over time.

The latest edition features the following articles:

Life Expectancy Trends - Australia

Since the late 1800s, life expectancy for Australian boys and girls has increased by over 30 years. For 2007 to 2009, girls born in Victoria had a life expectancy of 84.1 years (above the national life expectancy of 83.9 years) while boys had a life expectancy of 79.7 years (above the national life expectancy of 79.3 years).

Health Services: Use and Patient Experience

In 2009, people living in outer regional/remote areas of Australia were more likely than those living in major cities to have reported that they had waited longer than they felt was acceptable for a GP appointment (23% compared with 16%).

Health Outside Major Cities

According to the ABS 2007–08 National Health Survey, when compared against residents of major cities, people aged 15 years and over who lived outside major cities were three times more likely to die from transport accidents, almost twice as likely to die from high blood pressure and 1.3 times as likely to drink alcohol at risky levels.

Year 12 Attainment

In 2010, around 1.2 million young adults (aged 20–24 years) had completed Year 12. Over the past decade the proportion of young adults with Year 12 completion has gradually increased, rising from 71% in 2001 to 78% in 2010. In Victoria, 81% of young adults had obtained Year 12.

Education and Indigenous Wellbeing

Educational attainment for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians has improved since the mid-1990s. In 2008, 37% of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 18 years and over (adults) had attained a minimum of Year 12 or a skilled vocational qualification, more than double the rate in 1994 (16%).

To find out more, please visit the publication.

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Crime Victimisation, Australia, 2009–10 (cat. no. 4530.0) - released 17/02/11

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; State and territory

This publication presents results from the Australian Bureau of Statistics' (ABS) national Crime Victimization Survey conducted from July 2009 to June 2010. The survey collected data about victims for a selected range of personal and household offences, whether victims reported these incidents to police, characteristics of victims and characteristics of their most recent incident, and people's perceptions on social disorder in their local area.

Victimisation rates for most personal crimes decreased between 2008–09 and 2009–10. The victimisation rate for robbery fell from 0.6% to 0.4%, face-to-face threatened assault from 3.9% to 3.1%, and non face-to-face threatened assault from 1.2% to 0.8%. The level of reporting was generally similar to 2008–09, although incidents of robbery were more highly reported in 2009–10, with 61% of victims reporting the latest incident to police, compared with 39% in 2008–09.

Australian households experienced an estimated 82,900 incidents of motor vehicle theft in the 12 months prior to interview. The majority (65%) of the most recent motor vehicle theft incidents occurred at the victim's home. Victoria was the only state or territory to experience a significant decrease in victimisation rate for motor vehicle theft from 1.1% in 2008–09 to 0.6% in 2009–10.

To find out more, including information about household crime, and perceptions about social disorder, please visit the publication.

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Criminal Courts, Australia, 2009–10 (cat. no. 4513.0) - released 27/01/11

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; State and territory

This publication presents nationally comparable statistics relating to the criminal jurisdiction of the Higher (Supreme and Intermediate), Magistrates' and Children's Courts across Australia throughout 2009–10. Some time series data are also included where available. The statistics describe the characteristics of defendants, including information on the offences and sentences associated with those defendants.

The number of defendants finalised—that is, all charges relating to a person or organisation for a case have been completed by the court—in the Higher Courts was the lowest in 2006–07 (16,287 defendants). In 2007–08 and 2008–09 this decline had been reversed with the number of defendants finalised in 2007–08 increasing by 3% to 16,735 and by 3% in 2008–09 to 17,207. However in 2009–10 the number of defendants finalised had dropped by 2% to 16,834.

Four states had decreases in the number of defendants finalised in the Higher Courts in 2009–10 from the previous year: Tasmania (19%), Western Australia (12%), Queensland (6%) and Victoria (3%). The remaining states and territories had increases, the largest being South Australia (23%).

To find out more, including information about the Magistrates' Courts and Children's Courts, please visit the publication.

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Guide to Migrant Statistical Sources, 2011 (cat. no. 3414.0) - released 29/03/11

This publication contains summary information on a range of ABS and non ABS statistical sources either directly related to migrants and ethnicity or which collect migrant or ethnicity related data items. Details of each source's relevance to migrants and ethnicity are highlighted together with other details to assist users to assess and access data for their

needs. By consolidating these data sources, the ABS aims to increase awareness of, and improve access to, migrant and ethnicity related statistics.

ABS and non ABS sources are presented by topic and by title. The 'Sources by Topic' index presents data sources according to the standard ABS Topic Framework while the 'Sources by Title' index presents sources in alphabetic order.

To find out more, please visit the publication.

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Perspectives on Culture, March 2011 (cat. no. 4172.0.55.001) - released 04/03/11

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; State and territory

Perspectives on Culture is a new release, providing commentary on topics relating to culture and arts. This release included articles on:

- Art gallery and museum attendance
- Cinema attendance
- Library and archive attendance
- Zoological park and botanic garden attendance

To find out more, please visit the publication.

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Recorded Crime - Offenders, 2009–10 (cat. no. 4519.0) - released 24/02/11

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; State and territory

This publication presents statistics relating to offenders who were proceeded against by police during 2009–10, for all states and territories. These statistics describe the characteristics of the offender, including the principal offence for which offenders are proceeded against. Data are also presented on the number of police-initiated court and non-court actions against offenders.

There were a total of 375,259 offenders proceeded against by police in Australia during 2009–10. This was a 5% (17,123) increase over the 358,136 offenders that police proceeded against in 2008–09. The rate of offenders dealt with by police in 2009–10 was 1,940 offenders per 100,000 people aged 10 years and over; an increase on the 2008–09 rate of 1,896 offenders per 100,000 people aged 10 years and over.

The number of female offenders increased by 4,915 (or 6%, to 84,072 female offenders) between 2008–09 and 2009–10, compared with an increase of 12,127 (or 4%, to 290,442 male offenders) in the number of male offenders. Males accounted for more than three out of every four offenders (77%) in 2009–10. Victoria reported the largest proportional increase in the number of offenders, both male and female (14% and 11% increase respectively).

To find out more, including information about principal offence, youth offenders, and court actions, please visit the publication.

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Regional Population Growth, Australia, 2009–10 (cat. no. 3218.0) - released 31/03/11

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; State and territory; Statistical

Division (SD); Statistical Subdivision (SSD); Statistical Local Area (SLA); Statistical District (S Dist); Remoteness Area (RA); Local Government Area (LGA)

This product contains estimates of the resident populations of areas of Australia as at 30 June in each year from 2001 to 2010.

Australia's estimated resident population (ERP) reached 22.3 million at 30 June 2010, increasing by 377,100 people since 30 June 2009. This represents an annual growth rate of 1.7%, the lowest since the year ended 30 June 2006. This is the first time since 2003–04 that Australia's annual growth rate has been lower than its annual average growth rate for the last five years.

All states and territories experienced population growth in 2009–10, with the largest population increases continuing to be recorded in Australia's three most populous states. New South Wales experienced the greatest growth (up by 105,400 people), followed by Victoria (99,300) and Queensland (89,100). This is only the second time in the last nine years that Queensland has not had the largest growth of all states and territories.

Melbourne SD's growth of 79,000 people was the largest of all the Australian capital city SDs in 2009–10. The LGA of Wyndham (C), located on the western suburban fringe of Melbourne, experienced the largest and fastest growth (12,600 people or 8.8%) of all Victorian LGAs. The fastest Victorian LGA population growth outside of Melbourne occurred in coastal Bass Coast (S) (4.6%).

To find out more, including information about urban infill, growth along the coast, and population decline, please visit the publication.

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Schools, Australia, 2010 (cat. no. 4221.0) - released 17/03/11

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; State and territory

This publication contains statistics on students, schools, and staff involved in the provision or administration of primary and secondary education, in government and non-government schools for all Australian states and territories, as at the schools census date 6 August 2010.

Over the past 10 years the number of schools in Australia has decreased by 132, from 9,600 in 2000 to 9,468 in 2010. In that time the number of government schools fell by 223, including a decrease of 59 schools from 2009 to 2010. Over that same decade the number of non-government schools increased by 91, with most of that growth occurring before 2005.

Across the states and territories over the past 10 years, Western Australia and the Northern Territory have increased the overall number of schools. School numbers increased in these jurisdictions by 22 and 6 respectively. Victoria had the largest overall decrease in school numbers during this period, a decrease of 73 schools.

To find out more, including information about students, Indigenous students, and staff, please visit the publication.

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Balance of Payments and International Investment Position, Australia: Concepts, Sources and Methods, 2011 (cat. no. 5331.0) - released 08/03/11

The balance of payments, or current account balance, is one of Australia's key economic indicators, and measures economic transactions between Australian residents and residents of the rest of the world. It also draws a series of balances between inward and outward assets, provides an overall net flow of transactions between Australian residents and the rest of the world and reports how that flow is funded.

This publication is being developed under a new format and changes will be updated progressively. The first instalment focuses on the Goods and Services Account. When completed the publication will provide, for Australia's Balance of Payments and International Investment Position statistics, a comprehensive understanding of the:

- Underlying conceptual framework;
- Classification of data items;
- Presentation and publication;
- Data sources and methods;
- Data quality; and
- Relationship to broader economic statistics as defined in the system of national accounts.

To find out more, please visit the publication.

Characteristics of Australian Exporters, 2009–10 (cat. no. 5368.0.55.006) - released 30/03/11

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; State and territory

This publication presents an analysis of the characteristics and international trading activities of Australian exporters in 2009–10. The information is compiled as a by-product of producing regular monthly and quarterly statistics on Australia's merchandise trade and international trade in services.

There were 45,057 Australian exporters in 2009–10, a decrease of 502 exporters from 2008–09. Of these Australian exporters, 42,652 were exporters of merchandise goods and

3,613 were exporters of services. Of those businesses engaged in exporting services, an estimated 1,208 (33%) were also exporters of merchandise goods.

42% of Australia's total value of goods exports in 2009–10 came from Western Australia, followed by Queensland (22%), New South Wales (16%), and Victoria (9%).

To find out more, including information about export activity, industry, and business size, please visit the publication.

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Employee Earnings and Hours, Australia, May 2010 (cat. no. 6306.0) - released 27/01/11

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; State and territory

This publication contains statistics on the composition and distribution of employees' earnings and hours, as well as information on how employees' pay is set - by award, collective agreement or individual arrangement.

In May 2010, half (50%) of all employees were male and half (50%) were female. Average weekly total cash earnings were \$1,010.30 for all employees, \$1,192.10 for male employees and \$827.70 for female employees. Full-time employees made up 63% of all employees and had average weekly total cash earnings of \$1,313.30. Part-time employees accounted for 37% of all employees and had average weekly total cash earnings of \$488.80.

The average weekly total cash earnings of all employees was highest in the Australian Capital Territory (\$1,218.20) and lowest in Tasmania (\$876.80). The greatest proportion of employees were in New South Wales (31%) where average weekly total cash earnings were \$1,053.60.

To find out more, including information about occupations, industry, and methods of setting pay, please visit the publication.

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Job Search Experience, Australia, Jul 2010 (cat. no. 6222.0) - released 18/01/11

Data available at the following geographic level: National

This publication presents information about the experiences of unemployed people in seeking work, in terms of the steps taken to find work and the difficulties encountered in finding work. It also presents information about employed people who started their current job in the previous 12 months. For this group, data on the steps taken to attain work and current job details are provided. In addition, demographic information is provided for both groups.

In July 2010, the main difficulty in finding work for unemployed people was 'too many applicants for available jobs' (14%), followed by 'insufficient work experience' (11%). Whereas, in July 2009, the most commonly reported main difficulties in finding work were 'too many applicants for available jobs' (15%) and 'no vacancies in line of work' (11%).

The difficulties in finding work for unemployed people varied with age, whether they were men or women, how long they have been unemployed and what type of work they were looking for (full-time or part-time).

To find out more, including information about duration of unemployment and steps taken to find work, please visit the publication.

Persons Not in the Labour Force, Australia, September 2010 (cat. no. 6220.0) - released 22/03/11

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; State and territory

This publication presents information about people aged 15 years and over who are not in the labour force: that is, neither employed nor unemployed. The data measures the potential supply of labour not reflected in employment and unemployment statistics, and the characteristics of that potential supply. Many of these people could move into the labour force in the short term, or could do so if labour market conditions changed.

In September 2010, there were almost 5.9 million people aged 15 years and over who were not in the labour force. This represented 33% of the civilian population aged 15 years and over. Since September 2007, people aged 15 years and over who were not in the labour force have comprised approximately one-third of the civilian population.

For discouraged job seekers, the most commonly reported main reason for not actively looking for work was 'Considered too old by employers' (38%). This was followed by 'Lacked necessary training, skills or experience' (18%), and 'No jobs in locality or line of work' (16%).

For people with marginal attachment to the labour force, reports of main activity when not in the labour force differed between men and women. The most commonly reported main activity for men was 'Attending an educational institution' (40% of men compared to 22% of women), whereas for women it was 'Home duties' (35% of women compared to 12% of men) and 'Caring for children' (26% of women compared to 3% of men).

To find out more, including information about age, and state and territory level data, please visit the publication.

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Underemployed Workers, Australia, Sep 2010 (cat. no. 6265.0) - released 08/03/11

Data available at the following geographic level: National

This publication presents information about the characteristics of underemployed workers aged 15 years and over. Underemployed workers are defined as part-time workers who want, and are available for more hours of work than they currently have, and full-time workers who worked part-time hours, during the reference week for economic reasons (such as being stood down or insufficient work being available).

In September 2010, there were 733,900 underemployed part-time workers. These people comprise 91% of all underemployed workers. Of the underemployed part-time workers:

- 61% were women;
- 18% were aged 35–44 years and a further 17% were aged 25–34 years; and
- 59% reported they would not prefer to change employer to work more hours, 25% would prefer to change employer, while the remaining 16% had no preference.

To find out more, please visit the publication.

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Venture Capital and Later Stage Private Equity, Australia, 2009–10 (cat. no. 5678.0) -

released 10/02/11

Data available at the following geographic levels: National

Venture Capital and Later Stage Private Equity (VC&LSPE) is high risk capital directed towards businesses with prospects of rapid growth and/or high rates of returns. It is an investment not only of money, but also of skills and time. This publication presents information on both financial and non-financial contributions to venture capital and later stage private equity investments.

The value of funds committed to VC&LSPE investment vehicles fell during 2009–10. As at 30 June 2010, investors had \$17.3b committed to investment vehicles, a fall of 1% on the \$17.5b committed as at 30 June 2009. Most of the committed funds were sourced domestically, with 93% of commitments from Australian investors (up from 91% as at 30 June 2009). The value of funds committed by non residents fell \$301m (20%).

To find out more, including time series data, please visit the publication.

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Environment and Energy Statistics

ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY STATISTICS

Land Account: Great Barrier Reef Region, Experimental Estimates, 2011 (cat. no. 4609.0.55.001) - released 28/02/11

Data available at the following geographic levels: Natural Resource Management region; Statistical Area 1

This release provides environmental, economic and social information within the 5 Natural Resource Management (NRM) regions that comprise the Great Barrier Reef (GBR) catchments. The Land Account is part of a set of integrated environmental-economic accounts currently being developed by the ABS. Environmental-economic accounting is a method of integrating environmental data with economic and social data.

A land account could be used to inform debate on:

- population settlement;
- sustainable production of goods and services;
- understanding the costs and benefits of different land management decisions, including the impact on the carbon cycle, water availability and quality, distribution and abundance of native species;
- understanding the productive capacity of the land used by the mining and agricultural industries;
- measuring the health of the environment;
- understanding the economic, environmental and social costs and benefits of activities occurring on the land; and
- measuring the potential social and economic impact of a disaster (flood, fire, cyclone).

In this pilot project, economic, social and environmental data has been integrated with spatial location information to provide an interactive Google Earth® image that shows Statistical Area 1 (SA1) level information for:

- boundary information, population and business
- rateable land value and land use
- dynamic land cover
- fire, temperature and rainfall, as well as
- an ESRI® geodatabase file and a MAPINFO® file that can be used in GIS, and
- a supporting text delimited file.

The methodologies and practices used in this release will be reviewed and enhanced to produce future land accounts which will cover each State and Territory as well as specific environmental regions.

To find out more, including how to download the data and view it using Google Earth® software, please visit the publication or view the attached brochure.

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Agriculture and Industry Statistics

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AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRY STATISTICS

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[Motor Vehicle Census, Australia, 31 Mar 2010](#)

[Value of Principal Agricultural Commodities Produced, Australia, Preliminary, 2009–10](#)

Information Paper: Revisions to Historical ANZSIC Industry Data, 2011 (cat. no. 6259.0) - released 25/02/11

This publication provides details of revisions to the concordance between the formerly used Australian Standard Industrial Classification (ASIC 1983) and ANZSIC 1993. This new concordance has been applied to historical labour force data, and newly revised employment by industry estimates for the period November 1984 to May 1994 have been published in *Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly*, Feb 2011 (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003).

This new concordance remains largely the same as the one detailed in the previous issue of this publication. Amendments have only been made to the estimated employment ratio between 7 ASIC 1983 Industry Groups and their 18 attributable ANZSIC 1993 Groups. These amendments reinstate the proportions provided in the replacement 1994 issue of this publication as the 1996 revisions to these proportions have since been found to be inappropriate.

To find out more, please visit the publication.

Motor Vehicle Census, Australia, 31 Mar 2010 (cat. no. 9309.0) - released 01/02/11

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; State and territory

This publication presents statistics relating to vehicles which were registered at 31 March 2010 with a motor vehicle registration authority. Motor vehicle registration statistics are compiled from data made available by various state and territory motor vehicle registration authorities and reflect the information as recorded in registration documents.

There were 16.1 million motor vehicles, including motor cycles, registered in Australia at 31 March 2010. This is 2.5% higher than the number of registrations from the 31 March 2009 Motor Vehicle Census, and an increase of 15.4% since the 2005 Motor Vehicle Census, when there were 13.9 million vehicles registered in Australia. The average annual growth over this five year period was 2.9%.

Motor cycles accounted for 4.1% of all vehicles registered in Australia at 31 March 2010, up from 3.0% in 2005. Between 31 March 2005 and 31 March 2010, motor cycle registrations increased by 56.5% and had the largest increase of any vehicle type. Increases in registrations over this five year period have been observed in all states and territories, with Western Australia recording the largest percentage increase (77.0%), followed by the Northern Territory (74.8%). The smallest percentage increase was in Victoria where registrations of motor cycles at 31 March 2010 were 45.4% above those recorded 5 years earlier.

To find out more, including information about average age of the fleet, type of fuel, and motor vehicles and resident population, please visit the publication.

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Value of Principal Agricultural Commodities Produced, Australia, Preliminary, 2009–10 (cat. no. 7501.0) - released 21/02/11

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; State and territory

This publication contains preliminary estimates of the gross values of production for principal agricultural commodities for all states, territories and Australia for 2009–10. The final national and state estimates for 2009–10 will be released in Value of Agricultural Commodities Produced, Australia (cat. no. 7503.0) in May 2011 and regional estimates shortly thereafter.

In 2009–10, the preliminary estimate of the gross value of agricultural commodities produced was \$39.5 billion, a decrease of 6% (or \$2.4 billion) from the previous year. The value of crops decreased 7% to \$21.1 billion, and livestock products decreased 9%, down to \$5.7 billion. This was due to a significant decrease in the value of whole milk. Livestock slaughterings and other disposals decreased 1% to \$12.7 billion, with decreases in the value of cattle and calves and poultry more than offsetting increases in the value of sheep and lambs, pigs and other livestock.

To find out more, including state/territory level data, please visit the publication.

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GENERAL RELEASES

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Glossary of Statistical Geography Terminology, 2011

Local Government and ABS, March 2011

Quality Management of Statistical Outputs Produced From Administrative Data, March 2011

Research Paper: Business Innovation and the Use of Information and Communications Technology, Mar 2011

State and Regional Indicators, Victoria, Dec 2010

Glossary of Statistical Geography Terminology, 2011 (cat. no. 1217.0.55.001) - released 04/03/11

This publication contains brief explanations and definitions of various geographical terms and classifications used in ABS products.

To find out more, please visit the publication.

Local Government and ABS, March 2011 (cat. no. 1376.0) - released 07/03/11

This biannual newsletter is aimed at helping Local Government clients discover and use ABS statistics for planning and other community servicing needs.

In this issue, case studies are used to show how data from the latest Wage and Salary Earner Statistics for Small Areas release and the National Regional Profile can be used to explore the characteristics of Local Government Areas.

Other feature articles include an update on Local Government Finance and information on the ASGS. News about Census Collector job opportunities are also in this issue.

To find out more, please visit the publication.

Quality Management of Statistical Outputs Produced From Administrative Data, March 2011 (cat. no. 1522.0) - released 22/03/11

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) is Australia's official statistical agency and is committed to leading a high quality statistical service to assist and encourage quality informed decision making. As part of this service the ABS is committed to providing leadership in quality management of statistical processes.

National statistical agencies need to find new and improved ways of acquiring information about their target populations to reduce respondent burden, maximise available data usage and find efficiencies in the use of taxpayers' money. This has led to the use of information that is collected for purposes other than that of a statistical nature. This type of information is often obtained from records or transactional data from government agencies, businesses or non-profit organisations which use the information for administrative purposes.

This paper provides information on managing the quality of statistics produced from administrative data. It focusses on some principles and best practices to assist in the management of the acquisition of administrative data.

To find out more, please visit the publication.

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Research Paper: Business Innovation and the Use of Information and Communications Technology, Mar 2011 (cat. no. 1351.0.55.033) - released 03/03/11

The study uses data from the ABS Business Longitudinal Database (BLD) to examine the association between the intensity of use of information and communications technology (ICT) by businesses, and innovation. The types of innovation considered include product, process, organisational and marketing innovations.

The analysis finds a strong relationship between ICT intensity and innovative activity at the firm level. Businesses which use sophisticated types of ICT are significantly more likely to undertake innovation of any type. The more intense ICT users are likely to undertake more types of innovation, more novel innovations and are more likely to develop the innovations internally. The relationship between ICT and innovative activity holds when controlling for a range of other business characteristics, such as employment size and industry division.

To find out more, please visit the publication.

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State and Regional Indicators, Victoria, Dec 2010 (cat. no. 1367.2) - released 21/02/11

Data available at the following geographic levels: State and territory; Local Government Area; Major Statistical Region; Tourism Region

State and Regional Indicators, Victoria (SRIV) is a quarterly publication that contains recently released statistical information about Victoria and its regions. Data is sourced from ABS and non-ABS collections. It provides measures according to a triple bottom line of economic, social and environment elements.

The December 2010 issue of SRIV includes:

- Animated Trade Pyramids for Victoria
- Feature Article: Underemployment: A Victorian Perspective
- Spotlight On: Recent fertility trends in Victoria
- Spotlight On: Understanding and using time series estimates

A number of regular sections, for example Construction, Tourism, and Trade, also provide recent Victorian-level data. This is the final issue of the publication.

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Training Courses and Information Seminars

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TRAINING COURSES AND INFORMATION SEMINARS

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DETAILS OF TRAINING COURSES

Venue: ABS Victorian Office, Level 5 South Tower, 485 La Trobe Street, Melbourne.

Time: Full day courses generally run from 9:00am to 4:30pm.

What statistical training courses are available at ABS Victoria?

[Analysing Survey Data Made Simple](#)

[Turning Data Into Information](#)

[Running Your Own Survey](#)

[Principles of Questionnaire Design](#)

[Making Quality Informed Decisions](#)

[Valuing Australia's Environment](#)

COMING UP SOON

The following courses will be running in the Victorian office for the rest of the financial year:

Introduction to Labour Statistics - 19 April (\$450)

This course provides an overview of the range of concepts and issues associated with ABS labour statistics. It explores the data produced by both household and employer based collections, and highlights the range of products available to access labour-related data.

Running Your Own Survey - 4-5 May (\$750)

This course aims to provide a broad overview of all facets of survey development. Topics include developing survey objectives, advantages and disadvantages of various collection methodologies, questionnaire design, data processing, reporting of results and management of the design process.

Analysing Survey Data Made Simple - 17-18 May (\$750)

This computer based course develops practical skills in summarising and displaying survey data in graphical and tabular form. It provides the tools for finding simple relationships in survey data and testing for statistically significant differences in past and current survey results.

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Using ABS Datacubes in SuperTABLE - 24 May, 9am - 12:30pm (\$300)

The ABS web site has large datasets that can be downloaded for free. This course will teach participants how to access these datasets in SuperTABLE format to create tables that meet their organisation's information needs. Through a combination of theoretical instruction and computer-based exercises, participants will learn how to use the free SuperTABLE software.

* Please note the new date for this course (previously scheduled for 10 May).

Understanding Demographic Data - 26 May (\$450)

This one-day course introduces participants to demographic data in an international and Australian context. Participants will explore the components of population change (births, deaths, migration) and understand population estimates at the national, state and small area level. At the completion of this course participants will:

- have an understanding of demographic concepts and current issues,
- understand the basic methods of analysing demographic data; and
- be able to access appropriate demographic data on the ABS website.

This course is designed for people who use and/or need to understand demographic data to formulate policies and programs.

Principles of Questionnaire Design - 1-2 June (\$750)

A well designed questionnaire is vital for collecting high quality data. This course aims to provide participants with an awareness and understanding of questionnaire design principles. The course covers selecting collection methodologies, developing survey questions, designing questionnaire layout and testing the questionnaire.

Turning Data Into Information - 8-9 June (\$750)

This course develops skills in interpreting and analysing data, and communicating

information clearly and effectively. Analytical thinking skills are developed to enable the transformation of data into meaningful information such as written reports. A key theme of this course is analytical thinking to ensure relevant messages are extracted from data to meet set objectives.

Valuing Australia's Environment - 16 June (\$450)

A course focusing on the emerging discipline of environmental accounting. The course covers reasons for, and conceptual underpinnings of, environmental accounting as framed by the United Nations' "System of Integrated Environmental and Economic Accounting" (SEEA). It also covers practical issues associated with producing these accounts and presents some case studies, both within Australia and internationally. The course would be of interest to people requiring an overview of environmental statistics and their use and/or working in the field of environmental accounting or national accounts.

Making Quality Informed Decisions - 28 June (\$450)

This course introduces the concept of 'holistic quality' through the use of a data quality framework for a statistical collection. The framework ensures that users of statistics are able to assess whether the statistics are fit for their intended use. This course aims to provide a framework to evaluate the quality of available data sources and use this knowledge in the decision-making process.

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FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information on ABS statistical training go to the ABS website <www.abs.gov.au>. Select 'Services' then ABS Training. Course descriptions are available on the ABS Training: Course Profiles page, and registration forms can be downloaded from the ABS Training: Registration and Contacts page. Additional sessions may be scheduled according to demand.

For courses listed above, Esther Cramer (03 9615 7904) is ABS Victoria's training contact, or email queries/registrations to <victoria.statistics@abs.gov.au>.

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Points of Contact

The purpose of Victorian Statistics Advisory Forum is to act as the key collaborative forum for consultation between the Victorian Government and the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) with the aim of furthering the use of statistics and developing statistical capability across Victoria.

The Victorian Statistics Advisory Forum's objectives are to:

- strategically and collaboratively determine the statistical needs that support Victorian whole-of-government policy priorities to provide clear direction to the broader ABS and the State and Territory Statistical Services forward work program;
- promote the value and effective use of quality statistical information and infrastructure to support evidence based policy decisions; and
- encourage dialogue within and across State Government agencies to develop and share information on statistical developments and to disseminate statistical best

practice.

VSAF meets quarterly each year. The next meeting is on May 26, 2011. The following people are current departmental representatives to the forum:

VSAF Chair

Mary Cavar

Department of Treasury and Finance

Peter Froutzis

Department of Premier and Cabinet

Michael Krien

Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development

Daniela Sekirski

Department of Education and Early Childhood Development

Dr Sara Glover

Department of Health

Dr Connie Spinoso

Department of Human Services

Nigel Brand

Department of Justice

Diane Barbis

Department of Transport

Philip Norman

Department of Planning and Community Development

Dr Tim Patton

Department of Sustainability and Environment

Elizabeth Thomas

Department of Primary Industries

Vanessa Adams

Australian Bureau of Statistics

Lane Masterton

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